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THE BULLETIN . . . OF THE LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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Regional Institute for Louisiana, Mississippi and Southern Arkansas on the Library in the War and Post-War World

together with regular spring meeting of Louisiana Library Association

One of the twenty-one regional institutes on war and post-war issues to be held in the United States is scheduled for New Orleans, April 6 and 7, with headquarters at the Roosevelt Hotel. Such institutes were planned for library leaders of each area, but because of the limited number of libraries in this section, the local committee believed that all librarians of the area should be invited. The committee wishes to emphasize the fact that each librarian who attends should consider himself an active participant with responsibility for planning local institutes of a similar nature in his home community.

The executive board of the Louisiana Library Association recently voted to hold the regular spring meeting of that Association in conjunction with the Institute and the Louisiana Library Commission is likewise planning a conference of Louisiana parish librarians either before or after the institute. With these meetings in mind, but mindful also that time scheduled for them would be wasted for Arkansas and Mississippi librarians who are not planning special meetings, the committee decided on the following schedule of meetings.

April 6—Registration

10:30 Panel—What are we fighting for?

Luncheon meetings (if desired)

2:30 Business meetings of state groups

4:00 Sectional meetings

Dinner hour meetings (if desired)

8:30 Panel—Post-war planning

April 7

10:30 Panel—Libraries in the War

12:30 L.L.A. Trustees Luncheon

2:30 Panel—Libraries of the future

7:30 Book dinner

All meetings will be held in the Roosevelt Hotel.

The purpose of the institute is to help libraries and trustees to inform themselves about the important issues which face the American people; and to consider what libraries can do to encourage and assist the American people to read and think about them. The enterprise is a kind of experiment in post-professional self-education. It is hoped that nearly all library workers and many library trustees can participate in the local institute.

The American Library Association Policy Statement which was adopted at the Milwaukee meeting, is the background for the institutes. It follows:

The American Library Association believes that the American people are faced by three problems of such dominating importance as to demand the concentrated efforts of all agencies.

They are:

1. How to make our maximum contribution to the winning of the war;

2. Whether we as a nation wish to return to pre-war conditions or to continue progress toward democratic goals;

3. Whether and to what extent we want our country to participate in the organization of the world for peace.

The Association therefore recommends that every library give the greatest possible emphasis for the duration of the war to those materials and services which will give people the facts and ideas that will enable them to make intelligent decisions on these important questions; and it calls upon its officers to assist libraries in carrying out this program with all the means and imagination at their command.

Librarians must always refrain from telling people what to think. They cannot

avoid the responsibility of helping them to decide what to think about.

The national institute held in Chicago, January 31-February 1 centered the discussion on the following topics: Ideas are weapons, What citizens must know and do to help win the war, Preparing for the post-war period in America, Preparing for a post-war world. Throughout the four sessions participants were concerned with the question, "What can librarians do to promote reading and thinking on these issues?" It will be noted that library activities in general were eliminated from the discussion and that *War and post-war problems and issues were emphasized*. Several of the librarians from this area who attended the Chicago meeting felt that the meetings would be more helpful if more attention were centered on library books and reading, hence the local committee has planned part of the program specifically on the Library. It is expected that these discussions will be suggestive of potential contri-

butions of library service in helping the people understand basic issues.

The method of conducting the institute will follow closely that used at the national meeting. An outstanding leader has been invited to serve as moderator of all panels. It will be his duty to provoke discussion and steer it to relevant topics. He will frequently summarize, clarify and evaluate the things which have been said by panel participants and from the audience.

The local committee is departing somewhat from the national institute plan in selecting panel participants. There, subject specialists representing international relations, planning officials and O.C.D. served on the panel. For the New Orleans meeting several librarians and outstanding lay leaders will serve as panel participants. Names cannot be announced at present, but programs with complete information will be available later.

John Hall Jacobs, Chairman.

A BUILDING PROGRAM AFTER THE WAR

by

MARY WALTON HARRIS, *Director*
Parish and Regional Department,
Louisiana Library Commission

The next step in the development of many Louisiana libraries is a building program. In the parish library field this is particularly true. At the present time, of course, no buildings can be erected, but planning should be done now for the future. President Roosevelt said in his Lincoln Day broadcast:

"A fundamental of an effective peace is the assurance to those men who are fighting our battles that when they come home they will find a country with an economy firm enough and fair enough to provide jobs for all those who are willing to work."

"I am certain that private enterprise will be able to provide the vast majority of those jobs—and in those cases where this cannot be accomplished, that the Congress will pass legislation which will make good the assurance of jobs." Through this the hearer of

the president's talk visioned a long time plan in the making.

In Louisiana the State Department of Public Works has a Planning Section which coordinates with the National Resources Planning Board. The Planning Section has future building worked out for a number of the state agencies and departments and among them are library buildings for the State University and the Louisiana Library Commission. The Planning Section has also made a study of Iberia Parish and its needs which can be used as a model for other parishes.

What are librarians planning for the period after the war—a period that may perhaps come sooner than we think—and hope? The president has shown how local agencies and governments will be called upon to fur-

nish jobs and a livelihood for men now in service. Now is the time to plan for extension of services in order that they may be put into effect at the right moment. All libraries should have blue prints of plans that have been carefully worked out by local boards. Such planning would be for capital outlay: buildings (central and branch); furniture and equipment; bookmobile.

There are few libraries in Louisiana that are properly housed—Howard-Tilton at Tulane is an exception as are several of the state college libraries. With few exceptions—Caddo and East Baton Rouge—the parish libraries either need library owned buildings, or present buildings should be expanded. All parish libraries need a building program for branch libraries in the system—well planned buildings to which the community can point with pride.

Several libraries have been talking of new buildings for some time. Morehouse has a sinking fund for this purpose, using severance taxes received by the library as the nucleus. Where will libraries obtain funds for buildings and equipment since it is not possible under the law to use funds voted or appropriated for library service for such a purpose?

Tax funds and appropriations are not adequate to supply both library service and a building program even if it were possible under the law. One or the other would suffer—the people who voted the tax would be without good service, or lack a service adequately covering the parish; or, a fine building would be erected and lack of funds and staff without which there is no real library.

Too, the people of the parish will have something to say if the library withholds its funds during the tax year and places them in savings banks or buys bonds. They will have something to say when the time rolls round in a few years to revoke the library tax. They will argue that the tax is in excess of the needs of the library and should be reduced, or that adequate service has not been given with funds available, and so refuse to vote the measure.

Public libraries in Louisiana have not as yet met the ALA standard of one dollar per capita; few have specialists on their staffs for

children's work, work with schools, or a reference department headed by a specialist, or an adult education worker. These are goals yet to be reached instead of holding funds voted for library service. Such specialists could be added to staffs and so round out and give in fuller measure the manifold services the library stands for, and for which there is such a wide field.

What is the plan mentioned earlier? Library growth in Louisiana has been rapid in the last decade in all fields—school, college, and public libraries. Every type of library has found it necessary to fit into whatever quarters were available locally. Now, space is inadequate to growing needs in many of them, and bond issues or a tax levy for building requirements is essential. Here is where the librarian should plan with the Library Board to meet the situation. First draw up the requirements to be presented for consideration and later adoption, then make a study of building plans and costs, and later a Planning Committee should be appointed. Certain publicity would enter into the program with the Citizens Library Movement, or a citizens committee doing its part just as in a campaign for a library tax. A well rounded program would not only eventually result in a building commensurate with the library's place in the community, but would also react favorably in other ways.

No doubt, other public institutions have already gone far in such planning for expansion. Stuart Chase says "Some day the bombers will be grounded, the bugles will sound, and the war will end." He visions a greatly expanded economy with workers in war industries shifted to peacetime occupations who will insist vigorously on reemployment—a vast majority of postponed wants to be filled, and a promise of freedom from want to be redeemed. He asks: "Shall we be mentally prepared? Are we going to be flexible enough as a people to adjust our concepts so that these strong physical elements can be fully used? Will the war educate us to put first things first? There are many other most important phases of post-war conditions that libraries should be planning to meet now.

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THE STEP-CHILDREN OF PRINTING*

by

VIOLA ANDERSEN

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The term "step children" does not ordinarily carry with it a very pleasant connotation. We are inclined to think immediately of the under-privileged, the mistreated, and the unwanted. A feeling of pity may come over us. In this instance, however, may I warn you to save your sympathy until you have had an opportunity to become better acquainted with these healthy, rapidly growing, and promising children, acquired by Father Printing, now in his 500th year, upon his marriage to a 20th century bride—Miss Modern Technical Methods. What impressive names they have! Photostat, micro-photography, photo-offset, also called offset lithography, and enlargement prints—to name a few of them.

You may ask, why, after five centuries of apparently complete satisfaction with the output of the printing presses, we should concern ourselves with these young "upstarts." To answer this question we must consider what factors brought them into being, what purposes they are serving today, and what role they are likely to play in the future.

If it is true, that no library in the world is large enough to accommodate a single day's output of the printing presses, we must admit that we are already swamped by one type of machine. Why then should we subject ourselves to the deluge certain to be produced by others? Behind this, no doubt, lies first of all, man's natural curiosity, his desire to create, to present to his fellowmen something they have not seen before. To illustrate: The silk worms once had a monopoly on producing the raw materials which went into the making of milady's fine clothes. Today it is not necessary to wait for these little, mulberry-leaf-eating creatures to spin their co-

oons. The chemist goes into his laboratory, mixes coal, water, and air. A new product—Nylon—is created. In hundreds of other ways we are aware that we are living in a fast moving technical age.

Not only have we become more scientific minded, but we have also experienced a growing social consciousness. No one is more familiar with the doctrine of "the greatest good, for the greatest number, at the least cost," than the librarian. Access to the world's knowledge is no longer considered something to be enjoyed by a privileged few. Today, a book, which only a king could buy before Gutenberg, can be bought by any child out of his pocket money. The step children of printing have come into being, in many instances, in an effort to further reduce costs, and have thereby increased the dissemination of knowledge.

The present day emphasis on education, which has resulted in the granting of more and more advanced degrees by colleges and universities, has created an ever growing demand for scholarly research materials. Dr. R. C. Binkley, professor of history at Western Reserve University, says in his *Manual on Methods of Reproducing Research Materials*: "In the days when the classics and the works of the fathers constituted the principal body of research material, a scholar was not unlikely to have the core of his research materials in his own private library. As the stock of printed matter accumulated, increasing dependence was placed on the college university libraries. Now as the tonnage of printed material continues to increase, the ordinary college library becomes as inadequate as the private library, and the prospect appears that nothing less than the whole system of research libraries, co-operating with each other, will be able to supply the research scholars needs." To cope with this

*Presented before the Louisiana Library Association Convention, April 1940.

problem the Social Science Research Council, in 1929, joined forces with the American Council of Learned Societies to form a joint committee on materials for research. At about this same time, micro-photography, one of the most precocious of the step children, was passing through what might be called the experimental stage.

As far back as the Franco-Prussian war, filmed messages had been sent by carrier-pigeon from besieged Paris to the outer world. These messages, which were first set up in type and then reduced by means of photography, contained over 80,000 words, weighing 15 grams, a load for one pigeon. The beginning of the 20th century gave us the invention of the motion picture, and from this has evolved the microfilm, a miniature photograph, which is in fact a single motion picture print. It was a prominent official of one of the larger New York banks, who, after seeing a slow-motion picture of a thrown baseball, conceived the idea of attaching a filming camera to an adding machine and securing facsimiles of checks. By 1938 over 2000 banks were preserving a microfilm copy of every check presented for payment or certification. At the present time bank checks, at the rate of 75,000,000 a week are being photographically recorded.

Business and industry, each with an eagle eye for speed and consequent economy, were quick to realize the value of this new device. Engineering concerns with files of valuable tracings and blue prints, constantly in fear of loss of these records, now photograph them on film so as to have a duplicate file that can be stored away for safe-keeping. The Nash Engineering Company reports that if every one of their working drawings, having a value of close to a million dollars, should be destroyed by fire, or any other cause, they would be operating full blast again within a week. Insurance companies with expensive filing cabinets, containing millions of inactive loan record cards and policy briefs (occupying floor space worth several dollars per square foot), photograph these valuable card records and destroy the originals. A growing number of railroad companies are trying out the idea of micro-filming waybills to expedite freight service. In the Rock Island's freight yard at Kansas City, waybills are now photographed at a speed of 90 a minute. There is no more delay for fast freight, op-

erating on split-second schedules! There are no more errors! Every night, at midnight, the film is cut and rushed to the Eastman laboratories where it is developed and sent the next morning to the freight audit offices in Chicago. Department stores make up monthly charge account statements on a single ledger sheet with no carbons. This sheet becomes the statement, when mailed to the customer. The store's only record is a micro-film.

The problem of the convenient storage of the enormous accumulation of records of Cook County Hospital has been met by the adoption of film storage. The record room receives some 72,000 records in a year, at the present rate of admission. Four basement vaults, two floors below the main record room had proved inadequate, inconvenient, and worst of all, an unsafe place for storage. Instead of the 600 or more drawers, 28 inches deep, formerly required to hold the records, film storage makes possible the keeping of these same files in 12 drawers of a metal cabinet similar to a card file cabinet.

The United States government, well acquainted with all the aids to modern business and accounting procedures, has adopted photography in many of its departments. Several years ago Bibliefilm service was established in the Department of Agriculture. The NRA and AAA hearings, amounting to some 300,000 pages, were run off for a dozen libraries at a little over \$400 a set. A set of hectograph (a perishable medium) was quoted at \$6000 and a printed edition would have called for an outlay of a half million dollars.

With the census taker knocking on your door, this year, to inquire whether or not you have a bath tub, your age, your husband's salary and other allegedly personal and intimate questions, you may be interested to know what use has been made of micro-photography in the Census Bureau. The earlier population censuses are rapidly being filmed. Many of them have already been completed. With from 50 to 100 visitors calling, each day, to examine original records, which are from 50 to 100 years old, the volumes were rapidly falling to pieces, and it was becoming absolutely necessary to reproduce them in some form.

The Social Security Bureau has installed photographing equipment, and is now well along with the operation of placing all of its invaluable records on safety film. The Treasury Department, Library of Congress, Navy Department, National Park Service, and Farm Security Administration, are other governmental agencies making use of micro-photography. The first use made of the micro-film camera, acquired by the Bureau of Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution, was to copy a manuscript report, which had been loaned to the curator of Aeronautics, in the United States National Museum. This manuscript copy (the only one then known to be in existence) was the report to the Secretary of War by Professor Thaddeus S. C. Lowe on the operation of the Balloon Corp during the American Civil War.

While industry, business, and the government were making more and more use of micro-photography, librarians, conservative by nature and necessity, watched with interest. How was this new recording medium, with the long name, going to effect them? What use could they make of it? By 1936 the great possibilities of the new technique were realized by a substantial group of librarians and the result was the micro-photography symposium of the A. L. A. conference in Richmond. Within the last four years, equipment, especially designed for scholarly and library purposes, has been introduced. The Recordak newspaper projector, the Argus reader, the Photo-Record camera, the Graphic Service Projector, and the Micro-file newspaper camera—are examples.

The Journal of Documentary Reproduction, a professional publication, devoted to the use of photography and the related processes in the reproduction of materials in print and manuscript form, made its initial appearance in 1938. Grants have been made by various foundations to foster the development of the new technique both at home and abroad. Laboratories equipped for micro-filming have been set up at the University of Chicago, Temple, Columbia, Yale, Brown, and many others. Photoduplication, the newest of the services of the Library of Congress, is now capable of meeting the largest request for micro-film reproduction. Nor is it limited to this alone. Adequate apparatus has been assembled to produce photostats and blueprints, often indispensable for

some research requirements. Courses in micro-photography were offered at Columbia University and the University of Chicago, for the first time, last summer. The forthcoming edition of the *Union List of Serials* will contain information regarding the availability of micro-filming and photostating facilities of co-operating institutions.

Time permits the mention of but a few of the projects that have been or are being carried out. Probably one of the largest of these is that of University Micro-films, formerly Edwards Brothers, of Ann Arbor, Michigan, to photograph all books printed in English before 1550. The films are furnished to subscribers at about one-half cent per page, and it is possible for a scholar to secure an individual copy of almost any item he may wish, in major European collections, at the rate of three and one-half cents per page. In 1939, forty-eight scholars in America were able to secure material from European sources and to have it available in their own libraries. One professor in an eastern college secured a film copy of an exceedingly rare book from London for approximately \$17.00, thereby saving himself a trip to Europe. Obviously at the present time the war shadows everything with uncertainty and some of the plans and arrangements, which were made, have either been curtailed or cancelled. Recently, at the Tulane University Library, we had occasion to order from University Microfilms, a micro-film of *The Examination Of Men's Wits*, which was originally published in England in 1609. We received word from the company, informing us, that an order for the film had been placed with the British Museum and, "provided the particular item had not been evacuated" they should experience no difficulty in securing it for us. Mr. Keyes D. Metcalf, chairman of the A. L. A. Committee on Photographic Reproduction, has discussed with the board the possibility of filming printed books and manuscripts in European libraries, endangered by the war. The idea is still in very tentative form and will be considered further at the board's next meeting.

Although, the English librarians have been alert to the possibilities of the field of micro-photograph for use in their own country, there has not been the impetus for developing a cheap and practical means of reproducing textual material, that we have. Due to

the relatively short distances to travel in England, the prevailing sentiment is that it is easier to go from London to Cambridge or anywhere else in England, to consult the required text, than to try to have the material reproduced and sent as a permanent possession. Then, too, England's rearmament program has kept its optical companies running at full capacity, making it quite impossible for manufacturers to undertake construction of microscopic equipment.

In Germany 100 cameras and 500 readers were being built in 1939 and it was planned in this way to eliminate completely all inter-library loans by 1940. All exposed film was to be sent to a central processing laboratory where it would be developed and sent out the next day to the scholar wishing the material. Here again it seems that the Nazis had planned a Blitzkrieg!

Newspapers, which are short lived and bulky, lend themselves particularly well to microphotography. In fact, had it not been for the introduction of this new technical method, during this decade, the historian of a generation or so hence would be unable to use newspapers in research work, in preparation of a history of the Spanish American or even the World War period. The New York Times, beginning with January, 1939, was made available on micro-film; the New York World Herald has started photographing on back files from 1841 up to the present time; and the Johnstown Tribune and Democrat has photographed files that had been through the famous Johnstown flood. The editor, of the latter, commented when the work was completed: "Think what an easy time we'll have when the next flood comes. The office boy will grab a couple shoe boxes of film and carry them to safety."

Mr. Herman Fussler, Head of the Department of Photographic Reproduction at the University of Chicago, in a recent issue of the Library Journal describes an interesting experiment that is taking place at Oglethorpe University: "What promises to be, in effect, the world encyclopedia, conceived by H. G. Wells in one of his stories of the future, is the assembly and correlation of encyclopedia material from authoritative sources all over the world, covering every phase of human thought, for deposition in the Crypt of Civilization. The micro-film reproductions are made on cellulose acetate film rolls, 100 feet

in length, placed in a glass cylinder and sealed, leaving a small projection through which the air is drawn off and replaced with helium. The cylinder is enclosed in transite asbestos, which is sealed with asbestos cement. The asbestos cylinder is in turn enclosed in a stainless steel receptacle, which is also sealed. It is then ready to go into the Crypt, which is a vault resting on the bedrock of the Appalachians, surrounded by great walls of granite and closed with a stainless steel door, which will be welded in place when the Crypt is closed. It is the intention of its founder, Dr. Thornwell Jacobs, that the Crypt remain inviolate for a period of 6000 years."

Micro-film to be used in the place of inter-library loans! Film catalogs of one library located in another! Micro-film for reference tools! Micro-film treated as a publishing means, to produce certain indexes, abstracts, bibliographies, and encyclopedias! Micro-film being used more and more for reproducing holographs of the great musical masters and early printed music! Colored microphotography for art collections and illustrated manuscripts! Even a suggestion that the Library of Congress depository catalogue be placed on film! Certainly all the possibilities and actualities have been covered. But, no, in the very last issue of the Library Journal, we learn that in the Gary Indiana Public Library the Circulation Department has been invaded! A test is now being carried on with a Recordak Junior camera, which will record 7000 charges on 100 feet of film, costing \$2.75, including processing. Mr. Shaw, the librarian, estimates savings, if applied to all branches, of five to eight thousand dollars, annually, in the Gary system.

With all this activity on the microphotography front, no one can deny, that at least one of the stepchildren of printing is experiencing severe growing pains. (I should like to suggest at this point that if we are to be constantly, more and more, in contact with this new development, that some one think of a suitable abbreviation. With our tendency to coin words and to use initials whenever possible, it doesn't seem likely, that we shall continue to say—micro-photography, if it is to become such an essential part of our professional vocabulary.)

Micro-photography is not only a stepchild but a problem child, as well. It seems that

if, we as librarians, are to be able to discuss this matter intelligently, we must acquaint ourselves with photographic techniques. Instead of the usual shop talk about fines, loans, and statistics of one sort and another, we must be able to discuss depth of focus, focal length, lens aberration, mercuric solution; we must know whether films having a nitrate and acetate base are more or less inflammable than those having a nitrate and viscose base; and we may even need to know the influence of residual thiosulphate on the life expectancy of photographic film. There is an increasing amount of technical literature being published on the subject. After reading it you will probably feel much as Omar Khayyam did of "life" when he wrote, "I have learned nothing from life except my own amazement at it."

The question of copyright, in many respects, is the most vexing of those, which are currently confronted in the use of micro-film. To illustrate with a local example: A New Orleans woman, last December, brought suit against the Louisiana State Museum, claiming that it had micro-filmed part of her file of an old French newspaper, in order to complete the museum's file. In her petition the plaintiff contended, that she had the only complete file of the paper from September, 1837 to March, 1916, when the publication was suspended. She further contended that, by having a part of her files micro-filmed, the value of her set had depreciated, and that it was done without her knowledge and unlawfully. She asked the court to turn the micro-filmed copies over to her, or else to have them destroyed. This suit was the first of its kind in the memory of the court.

Through the provisions of the copyright bill, introduced this year by Senator Thomas, a library would be forbidden to make a photographic reproduction of a manuscript letter, or of a privately printed book, which is, the work of a contemporary author, until he had been dead fifty years. This might prove a decided disadvantage where research is concerned.

I have given a great deal of time to micro-photography, chiefly, because, at the present time, it is the most talked of, of the so called stepchildren. However, it should not be thought of, to the exclusion of other allied processes. There is the photostat, with

which we are all familiar, which serves efficiently for a very short run of from one to five pages, and the enlargement prints, which become more efficient than photo-stats, in quantities of from five to ten pages or more. In spite of their greater cost, enlargement prints are much to be preferred for a person who seldom uses film and who has no satisfactory way of reading it.

Photo-offset or offset lithography, as it is sometimes called, must also be taken into consideration. Newspapers, particularly the small ones, which have fared badly in the last ten years, due to mounting costs of production and reduced revenues, have long been looking for a way to cut towering costs. Offset is cheap, because it does away with engraving, form makeup, stereo-typing—all the standard processes on a daily paper. The Hartford (Connecticut) News Daily and the Opelousas (Louisiana) Daily World are recent examples, of the use of this method.

A new project, known as micro-print, the idea of the publisher, Albert Boni, involves the reproduction of books or other printed matter through photo-offset methods of printing. This project was evidently the object of attack in a recent issue of *Scribner's Commentator*, under the caption, *They'll be in capsules next*. To quote from the magazine: "An otherwise sensible publisher in New York is engaged in perfecting an infernal machine called the Redex. You reduce books to the size of postage stamps, put them in the Redex, and view them through a magnifier. You turn the pages by turning a knob. This department feels that what it means is simply this: whereas the volume of printed matter has been reaching such dimensions that we would soon have to shovel most of it into the incinerator, the Redex will now make it possible to store millions of words more. Libraries will get fuller. Authors will grow more verbose. Misinformation will circulate faster and more smoothly. A new disease called Redex nerves will crop up, and thousands of printed brochures will be circulated to advertise the cure for it."

Mr. Fussler in commenting on Mr. Boni's project, in his column "Library photography," a regular feature of the *Library Journal*, is more optimistic. He feels that the technique fills a place between printing, where large editions in book size are re-

quired, and micro-filming, where only one or a very few copies are required.

In spite of all these new technological developments, it is not expected that they will replace printing for at least many years. You do not need to expect to find, immediately, on your front step, every morning, a thin strip of cellulose acetate, which must be placed in a reading machine before you know the day's headline. Dr. Binkley, however, sounds a warning note when he says: Not only the ordinary printed book of the conventional form, but even the book itself, is placed in a competitive position, where it once possessed a monopoly. It will require no little care to make sure that competition between the book and its rivals is regulated in the best interests of scholarship."

I wonder, if, in the light of this statement, it isn't Father Printing, who has held such a venerable position for hundreds of years, to whom we should give our sympathy, rather than to his stepchildren.

Nearly three years have passed since this paper was first presented. In that time many changes have taken place in our way of living. We have learned to speak and think in terms of home fronts, war production fronts, and battle fronts. In our eagerness to keep up with headline news we may have lost sight of what is happening on some of the smaller fronts. Therefore, it seems fitting to review, at this time, the role that is being played today by one of the aforementioned "stepchildren"—namely, microphotography.

With the destruction by Japanese bombs of valuable archives on the Philippines and undeterminable losses on the continent of Europe, we can be exceedingly grateful that much that would be irreplaceable to students of civilization, has been preserved by this new technique. A few notable examples safe on film are: (1) books in English before 1550, (2) magazines in England before 1880, (3) European reports on America from 1493-1800, (4) early Latin American documents before 1880, and (5) proceedings of the legislatures of the American colonies and states. A very important program being carried on at present, through the Rockefeller Foundation, is that of copying the records and documents of the British Museum.

There is a constantly growing use of micro-film in research and in business. With the

use of this process Westinghouse plans to put two million documents on film, thus reclaiming more than an acre of storage space. Not only does micro-film make possible the releasing and saving of valuable and needed space, which is in itself a contribution to the war effort at a time when materials and labor are at a premium, but it affords protection against loss from sabotage, bombing, fire and theft.

Micro-film is playing an important part in Civilian Defense. Telephone, gas and light companies are putting records, charts, plans, and maps on film. In event the central office is destroyed by an enemy bomb, prints can be made from these films and the restoration of essential public services greatly speeded up.

V-mail service is perhaps the best known of the present day uses of micro-film. Last March, the War Department, faced with the problem of the great cost of transporting mail to the armed forces, the lack of shipping space, and the loss of mail through enemy action, launched this service for the benefit of overseas forces. A V-mail letter, written on special stationery, and mailed with a three cent stamp goes automatically to the V-mail section operated by the Signal Corps. Here 1500 letters are photographed on 16mm. film, placed in a small box and ferried by bomber or commercial plane. (By the use of micro-film a ton of ordinary mail can be reduced in weight to about thirty pounds.) At its destination each frame of film, containing a reproduction of the complete letter, is enlarged to a 4 by 5 print, placed in an envelope and delivered to the addressee. The original letters are kept so that if anything happens to the films enroute they can be rephotographed and sent out immediately.

Thousands of Americans have thrilled to Shostakovich's "Seventh Symphony" but few know that the score was brought to this country on 100 feet of micro-film, placed in a tiny, tin box, no more than five inches round. It had been carried by plane from Kiubyshev to Teheran, by auto from Teheran to Cairo, by plane from Cairo to New York. Ten days after its arrival, photographers, printing from the film, had produced four volumes, 252 pages in all, of orchestral score.

There are many new uses of micro-photography about which the general public cannot

at present be informed. These uses come under the heading of military secrets. It is no secret, however, that this stepchild of

printing is playing an ever more important role. What may we expect of it in another three years, in ten years, in fifty years?



LOUISIANA LIBRARY COMMISSION

The newly appointed Louisiana Library Commission held its initial meeting January 12 in the commission headquarters here. Dist. Judge Frank Voelker, of Lake Providence, was elected chairman of the body and Miss Essae M. Culver was re-elected executive secretary.

Requests for library demonstrations were received from a number of parishes but no decision was reached as to a demonstration, the matter being left in the hands of the chairman and executive secretary. Reports on the year's work were given by Miss Culver, who said that requests filled by the commission totaled 78,000 for the biennium. More than 1,500,000 commission books were circulated during the same period.

Because of deaths and resignations the commission is a completely new body. Members in addition to Judge Voelker are Miss Mary Mims, L. S. U. extension sociologist; Mrs. George Lester of Bains, Mayor J. A. Ingram of Boyce and Gen. C. B. Hodges, president of L. S. U.

Members of the Louisiana Library Commission staff took their civil service examinations on January 29, the first librarians in the state to qualify for civil service rating under the newly functioning state civil service commission. The examinations were conducted under the supervision of Miss Debora Abramson, assistant secretary of the library commission.

Librarians all over the state are co-operating in the 1943 Victory Book Campaign. With the assistance of the American Red Cross and the U. S. O., the campaign was conducted in all parts of Louisiana. Emphasis this year was on books for men overseas with 3,000,000 volumes sought for the armed services. Miss Essae M. Culver, executive secretary of the commission, is again serving as state chairman.

A wealth of original historical material dealing with early Louisiana has been presented to the Louisiana Library Commission by the WPA state writers project for which the commission was sponsor. The material is now being sorted and catalogued and when this work is completed, it will be available for use by writers and others interested in Louisiana history and tradition.

The gift was presented to the commission through Lyle Saxon, Louisiana author, who was director of the WPA writers' project here and who is now in Washington where he is compiling a history of the WPA.

Included in the gift is all of the original material which went into the Louisiana and New Orleans Guides published by the writers' project. There are also numerous newspaper articles covering various Louisiana subjects. Copies of theses dealing with Louisiana, translations of foreign works dealing with the state, Louisiana Folklore, copies of accounts of travelers in Louisiana, biographies of the state's famous people, photographs of all sections of the state, some of them unpublished, pamphlets published by projects in other states and a group of original paintings from the WPA art project are also included.

The entire collection represents seven years of concentrated work by from 35 to 100 people. It has been placed in a special room in the commission headquarters and when sorted and catalogued will represent valuable research material for those interested in Louisiana history.

Two special exhibits have claimed much attention recently from visitors to the Louisiana Library Commission. One was on Louisiana industries and resources and included samples of various products grown or manufactured here, pictures and books dealing with the subject. The second was on Acadian handicraft and included handwoven blankets, hand-plaited palmetto purses and hats, mod-

els of adobe houses, Evangeline dolls and other articles made by Acadian women. The second, arranged by Miss Louise Olivier of the L. S. U. extension staff, will be shown in libraries in all sections of the state. The schedule for the display has not been worked out.

An interesting and extended article appearing recently in the Abbeville Meridional, weekly newspaper, told of the part played by the Abbeville Woman's Club in the organization of a library in Vermilion parish. The Woman's Club has worked ardently for a library for that parish for 36 years and was active in the passage there during the past year of a parishwide library tax.

Miss Essae M. Culver, executive secretary of the Louisiana Library Commission, attended the national institute on war and post-war planning held in Chicago under the auspices of the American Library Association January 30 and 31. She was appointed coordinator for Louisiana and this state will participate in a regional institute to be held this spring in New Orleans when the discussion will center on the part libraries can play in post-war planning.

The Louisiana Library Commission has obtained a collection of books on China recommended by the library committee of the Council of Books in Wartime. The volumes deal with the new China, the land and its people, the Chinese-Japanese war, the art and literature of the Chinese and similar topics and libraries which do not have the books will be able to obtain them from the commission.

A number of Louisiana librarians from the public libraries of the state have entered government service and are employed as librarians at army camps and navy yards. These include Miss Mary Herron, formerly WPA library supervisor in Vermilion parish, who has accepted a position at the Navy Yard library at Charleston, S. C.; Miss Jo Margueritte Coullard, assistant at Rapides parish, who has reported for active duty as a WAVE and is now at Smith College for training; Miss Elizabeth Williams, Concordia parish librarian, who is now librarian at Camp Van Dorn, Miss.; Miss Elvira Beltra-

mo, formerly assistant parish and regional department of Louisiana Library Commission, who is camp librarian at Camp John T. Knight, Calif.; Miss Anne Elizabeth Giddens, Caddo parish librarian, who is librarian at the staging area in New Orleans; Miss Dora L. Beridon, formerly assistant in Pointe Coupee parish, who volunteered for duty with the WAVES is in training at Iowa State College for Women, and Miss Jessie Miller, formerly assistant in the Rapides parish library, who is now in a camp library in Wyoming.

Louisiana parish libraries are now engaged in a busy program of wartime activities with libraries being much used as war information centers. Libraries have been called upon to provide information to the Red Cross, the U. S. O., the O. P. A. and other government agencies and have continued to provide reading material for soldiers and civilians.

Books dealing with countries where United States troops are now stationed, volumes on post-war planning and material on defense activities are increasingly demanded.

The Caddo parish library reports an increase in its annual budget appropriation from city and parish of \$3,887.42 which will be used to carry on wartime activities.

Extension of service to negroes is reported by the Natchitoches and the East Baton Rouge parish libraries. The East Baton Rouge Carver branch was opened for service on December 19 in an office building with Hazel Carter, a graduate of Southern university in charge of the separate book collection set aside. The branch has been used also as a negro civic center.

The Natchitoches Negro Carver branch began its service on February 19 in the recreation center.

The Terrebonne library through its branch custodians aided in filling out blanks for sugar rations.

Libraries in the maneuver area and in areas where army camps are located report increased use by soldiers. Many soldiers use the libraries and their branches as reading and writing rooms and many are borrowers.

Passage of the library tax in Rapides is cited as the outstanding achievement of the Rapides parish library which in the future will be locally supported.

COLLEGE AND REFERENCE SECTION

Louisiana Polytechnic Institute Library

Miss Thesta Ann Walker has taken over the duties of librarian in the newly organized elementary school library of the Training School connected with the education department. In addition she will teach the three courses in library science which the school offers for prospective teacher-librarians. Prior to her coming to Tech, Miss Walker worked as an assistant in the Ouachita Parish High School after which she served as librarian of the Oakdale High School in Allen parish.

When the library building was constructed, only a partial basement was provided. Now, excavation has started which will provide a basement the entire length and breadth of the building. Plans for the various uses to which the extra space may be used have already resulted in overcrowding.

Thanks to the Carnegie Grant, the library was enabled to acquire the Library of Congress Catalog of Printed Cards.

New Orleans City Hall Archives

Notwithstanding the fact that the WPA has been discontinued in our department of the City Hall Archives, a city personnel is now engaged in completing the work started in indexing and translating the French Ordinances.

They are also adding the current events to its newspaper file, and are cataloguing on cards the names of all magazines received in the City Hall, and filing the pamphlets for future reference.

From the calls received in our department, it is evident that the Registration Books are proving invaluable to many of our residents as evidence of citizenship, and as one of the documents used for obtaining a delayed birth certificate.

Stephens Memorial Library

Southwestern Louisiana Institute

Miss Lucy Ella Fay, nationally known librarian and co-author of "Instruction in the Use of Books and Libraries" arrived in Lafayette Thursday, February 11, 1943, to direct and assist in the study now being made by the staff of the Stephens Memorial Library.

The Commission on Curricular Problems and Research of the Southern Association proposed in 1936 that a co-operative study be made by the High Schools and Colleges designed to develop an educational program that would be more adequate for the needs of our adolescents. "The study seemed to be based on the following assumptions: (1) education in the South needs to be and can be improved. (2) improvement involves change. (3) the projection of change should be brought about through the understanding and co-operative effort of those affected; and (4) contemplated changes should point toward a gradual evolution of an educational program which serves directly the life needs of the people in the community or area which supports it."

In line with these suggestions Stephens Memorial Library staff have undertaken to make a study of the library. It is hoped that as a result facts about the collection, organization and service of the library will come to light which will lend itself to a critical analysis of needs in the collection and in the services of the library. It is hoped that a forecast of instructional developments can be made as they will affect the library building, the book collection and the service from the staff.

Miss Fay, who will direct the study, is a native Louisianian and a graduate of Newcomb. She holds the Master of Arts degree from the University of Texas and the B. L. S. and M. L. S. degrees from the New York State Library School. Miss Fay served as head of the Department of English at Texas College of Industrial Arts for three years. She served one year as Librarian at the University of West Virginia and eleven years as Librarian of the University of Tennessee. While in this capacity Miss Fay applied scholarly knowledge and technical skill to collecting and organizing the basic materials for a university library capable of meeting the needs of the State.

Two staff members have resigned from the Stephens Memorial Library since the first of the year. Mrs. Louisa Woodson, Reserve Librarian, has resigned due to illness. Miss Jewell Maurice, Assistant in Order Depart-

ment, resigned to accept a position in the L. S. U. Medical Library.

Southeastern Louisiana College Library

Open stacks are again being used at Southeastern. All students have access to the stacks at all times. It was very gratifying to the library staff to find only three books missing from the shelves when inventory was taken at the end of the first semester. This is indeed a fine record for the students.

A new system of fines is being tried this year and seems to be working so well that other libraries may wish to try it. If a fine is paid when an overdue book is returned the amount of the fine is reduced from five cents a day or hour to two cents a day or hour. All fines which must be "charged" remain at the higher rate. Usually by the end of the semester we have had a long list of students who owe fines. This year there

were just a few who had been negligent about paying.

Louisiana State Normal College Library

The Library is now serving the 650 cadets of the Naval Pre-Flight Training School which has been established here on the college campus.

Miss Laura Jones, who has served as cataloger for the past two years, was given a leave of absence in December, and has received an appointment as an army librarian at Camp McCain, Mississippi. Mrs. Maude Clay was added to our staff on February 1 as cataloger.

The library is co-operating with the other agencies of the college in carrying out periodic air-raid drills and fire-drills. During the recent state-wide blackout, the library reading rooms were evacuated in approximately two minutes.



LIBRARIES FOR NEGROES

Dryades Branch

In his annual report of New Orleans Public Library, 1942, John Hall Jacobs reviewed the Dryades Branch as "truly a center for Negro activities in 1942. There were 312 meetings held in the auditorium with a total attendance of 21,751 persons. The YMCA School of Commerce indicated its appreciation of the co-operation of the Branch by presenting about 50 books and 73 folding chairs. The Association for the study of Negro Life and History donated six pictures of outstanding Negro characters. More than 100 books were received as a gift from Mr. William Robinson, an aged patron of the Branch."

Southern University Library

Miss Ellenor A. Chaires, cataloguer for the past year, has accepted a position as Head of the Circulation Department of the Atlanta University Library. Miss Chaires, whose home is in Atlanta, received her Bachelor of Science degree from Spellman College in Atlanta, and her Bachelor's degree of Library Science at the University of Michigan.

Mrs. Camille S. Shade, librarian, completed Masters' work this summer at the Columbia

University School of Library Science, in Library Administration. She is now preparing her thesis as the final stage of this work. Recently, large electric clocks have been installed on each floor of the new Southern University Library building.

National Negro History Week

Miss Gertrude Green, president of the New Orleans branch of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, reported that more organizations celebrated the eighteenth National Negro History Week than ever before. The general public was invited to all programs. Copies of the U. S. Government publication, "Negroes in the War," were widely distributed.

Six programs formed a series of activities sponsored by the Xavier University Student Council in the observance of Negro History Week. Monday, a musical program stressed Negro composers and their works. Tuesday, a film produced in co-operation with the Harmon Foundation was shown, "The Negro in Literature, Education and Religion," and also a film of 1938, featuring, "Xavier University." A one-act play, "The House of Sham" bearing on Negroes in American

life, was produced by the dramatic club, Wednesday. In the afternoon, the O. W. I. films, "Farmer Brown" and "Campus on the March," were shown. A student forum, The Negro in Science and the War Effort, was held Friday. The closing program Sunday, February 14, had as guest speaker, Miss Fannie Williams, well known principal of the Valena C. Jones School, who spoke of "Facing our Responsibilities in a World at War". The speaker stressed the importance of a thorough understanding of what we fight for. She pleaded for the dissemination of correct information by college students, and in all possible ways to teach the multitudes. She appealed for teachers for, she said, "Civilization marches on the feet of little children." An all-alumni musical program included original piano compositions and renditions of Negro spirituals.

The Xavier University Library sponsored an exhibit during Negro History Week of a photographic collection of art productions by Negroes from the Harmon Foundation of New York. The travelling exhibit represents the Harmon awards of distinguished achievements among Negroes since 1926. Consisting of about one hundred fifty photographs, the exhibit showed works of painting, sculptor, fine photography and had some unusual photographs of artists at their work. The collection aroused unusual interest not only in Xavier students but in outside patrons and friends throughout the city.

We Build Together; a Readers' guide to Negro Life and literature, pamphlet publication, No. 2, of National Council of Teachers of English, was presented by the author, Charlemae Rollins, on the occasion of her visit to Xavier Library's Children's Center. Mrs. Rollins is children's librarian at the George Cleveland Hall Branch of the Chicago Public Library. Her 50-page pamphlet contains a wealth of material to aid in evaluating books for and about Negroes with pros and cons of a number of books and their illustrations. There are 21 pages of bibliography, with brief annotations.

The Science Reference Collection was strengthened this year by the purchase of a

set of Beilstein's Handbuch der organischen chemie. Thirty-four of the 49 books have already been received. This is a new printing of the Handbook and is, as on title page, "published and distributed in the Public Interest by Authority of the Alien Property Custodian, License No. A-3, photo-lithoprint reproduction, Edwards Brothers, Inc., Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1942."

Xavier Library, last October, expanded its war information services from an alcove in the periodical room to a special center, known officially as the X. U. War Information Center. Situated in the second floor lobby opposite the circulation desk, it occupies a prominent place and the most strategic place as far as the staff is concerned. The needs of a student can be readily seen by a worker from the desk at the Center or by the circulation assistants who are always on the alert for demands for war information. Everything that can strengthen the effectiveness of this agency is being used at this time—maps, globes, government posters and local and government announcements, all bibliographies, audio-visual aids, radio and the means of obtaining films and recordings, all these are being aligned into actual service, O. P. A. material, etc. Publicity in the school paper and conferences with students and teachers aid to make the Center better known and patronized. Forums, quiz programs, newsreels, news broadcasts at regular times, all these forward the interest in all the resources at the students' disposal, and are aided and promoted by all the members of the library staff.

Dillard University

Miss Erma Stripling is acting librarian of Dillard University Library since the departure of Nathaniel Stewart, who is now on leave of absence and is at Washington, in the Office of Censorship.

Mary L. Lambert was added to the staff recently as reference librarian.

This year the staff has been very busy with book selection, ordering and cataloguing for the new Library of the School of Nursing to be housed at Flint Goodridge Hospital.

Need We Be Reminded?

What are we fighting for? Only our own household, only our own town or state? It

is something larger—we are co-operating in the defense of something which makes our

immediate surroundings possible, something which was born generations ago and has been strengthened into a mighty Nation through the years.

The American Library Association is a perfect counterpart, something which began many years ago and has grown in strength through the years because of those who gave time and effort to its development, and whose very reason for existence is jobs like yours and mine. Unless we co-operate in the support of the organization which has given us the right to call ours a profession, there is no assurance of survival as such. No profession has ever gained the power to demand certain privileges and standards except through the combined strength of its members.

The complacency with which librarians say they cannot afford membership in the American Library Association is frightening. Yes, many other groups of people are now earning salaries entirely out of proportion to their qualifications, while library salaries have not increased with the rising cost of living; BUT don't forget that when this thing is over, the salaries of those special groups will drop to the peace-time level. Will yours be maintained on a professional level? That depends upon our strength *as a profession*, and that depends upon you and your interest.

In the January, 1943, A. L. A. *Bulletin*, President Metcalf said in his *You Cannot Be Indifferent*, "If library work is not worth doing, why not get another job? If you think it is worth doing, is not the A. L. A. worth supporting?" In the financial report given by Mr. Dooley, comptroller, at the February meeting of the Council, the necessity of maintaining the membership level was clearly emphasized. There are hundreds of us who have every intention of sending in our dues; but too frequently those good intentions, like so many good ideas, are buried beneath a great pile of never-getting-around-to-its.

The A. L. A. cannot sue you for non-support! It shouldn't have to. From your viewpoint, is the grounds incompatibility? Interest is the cure for that. What can we do to interest you? In most cases the .0002 per cent of your salary for dues isn't enough to risk having a case of professional pernicious anemia. If we are interested in what hap-

pens to us and to those who follow, NEED WE BE REMINDED?

ELLA V. ALDRICH, Chairman,
A. L. A. Membership Committee.



BOOK REVIEWS

The Development of University Centers in the South, A. F. Kuhlman, Editor. Nashville, Peabody and Vanderbilt University Press, 1942.

This work is a record of the papers presented at the dedication of the Joint University Libraries, December 5-6, 1941. On that occasion the principal speaker was Dr. W. W. Bishop, Librarian Emeritus of the University of Michigan. Recent developments of university centers were presented for Georgia by G. G. White of Emory University, for New Orleans by R. P. McCutcheon of Tulane University, for North Carolina by Harvie Branscomb of Duke University, for Nashville by S. C. Garrison, President of George Peabody College and by Chancellor O. C. Carmichael of Vanderbilt University.

The significance of the Joint University Libraries was pointed out by Dean L. R. Wilson of the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago, its program by Dr. Kuhlman, Director of the joint libraries. Other speakers dwell at length on implications of the university center movement.

What has taken place in Nashville in the establishment of this joint library is typical of what is taking place in a number of communities. As economic pressure increases and the value to scholarship of combined resources becomes more apparent it is likely we shall see more and more of similar unions. Such libraries, once set up, operate with less friction growing out of individual viewpoints than might be expected. The advantage to the library user because of the convenience of assembled material are so obvious as to require no comment.

The new co-operation is replacing conditions unnecessary and illogical as are the conflicting efforts of numerous poorly equipped groups in other fields of endeavor. In the case of colleges and universities, as Dr. Kuhlman well points out, "In their activities . . . they overlap, duplicate and com-

pete . . . In their amazingly unintelligent and wasteful distribution . . . they form clusters of three or four institutions within radii of fifteen miles or less."

The papers here presented give hints of the direction co-operative efforts in library management must take to get away from these chaotic conditions. No one expressed the idea better than did Dr. Bishop when he said, "By its cooperation with other libraries the university library supplements its own deficiencies and aids scholars with its own treasures. Cooperation is the great new principle in library work."

A Southern Bibliography—Biography, 1929-1941. Compiled by Janet Margaret Agnew. Baton Rouge, La., State University, 1942.

This useful bibliography, one of a series sponsored by the Library School of Louisiana State University, was written by Miss Agnew, who has recently become librarian of Sweet Briar College, while she was still an assistant professor at the Library School. It is an interesting indication of the interest in southern biography that such a work of 173 pages could be compiled for a period of only 13 years of recent date. Miss Agnew has evidently covered the ground thoroughly. Foreign works are represented only in translations. English works are included. Some books written exclusively for children have been omitted as have federal government and state publications. This book makes no pretense of being all inclusive. The hope is expressed that its publication will bring to light biographies locally printed and little known.

The convenient arrangement of contents provides a subject list, a classified list, a state list, one in chronological order and finally an index of authors and titles. The reader is thus furnished with a valuable reference tool. There is a three-page bibliography of books consulted. As a foundation, it is explained, the names of Southerners, that is, those born in the South, whether or not they remained there, were sought in such standard works as *The Library of Southern Literature* and *The South in the Building of the Nation*. One great exception had to be made, that of the name of Abraham Lincoln and members of his family. That material alone would have made a fair sized volume.

Miss Agnew's work is fourth in a series issued by the Library School. Earlier numbers dealt with fiction, historical fiction and poetry not going back of 1929. Would that we had compilations as useful for the period 1607 to 1929!



MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

The Louisiana College Conference was held in Baton Rouge, March 12-13. The Library Section which met on Saturday morning had as its theme "The Role of the Library in the General College Program." Miss Mary Clay, Librarian of Northeast Junior College Division of L. S. U., was chairman and presiding officer.

At 9 a. m. a business session and election of officers was held followed by a talk by Mr. James A. McMillen, Director of Libraries and the Library School of L. S. U. on "Highlights of the A. L. A. National Institute on War and Postwar Problems Concerning the College Library."

At 11 a. m. the Library Section met in joint session with the President's Section for a panel discussion on "The Role of the Library in the General College Program." Panel members were Eugene Watson, Librarian of Louisiana State Normal College, Chairman; Dr. Joel L. Fletcher, President of Southwestern Louisiana Institute and Chairman of the President's Section; Miss Ella V. Aldrich, Head of the Dept. of Books and Libraries and Reader's Adviser, L. S. U.; F. J. Price of the Journalism Department of L. S. U. and E. J. Sheerer, Librarian of Louisiana Polytechnic Institute.

The Executive Board and Council of the American Library Association at its meetings on January 30 and February 1 voted to hold no regular annual conference in 1943.

Business meetings of the council and Executive Board will be called only if they are necessary for the transaction of business essential to the war effort.

Chairmen and members of committees and boards (other than the Executive Board) appointed by the A. L. A. will be "frozen" in their positions for one year. The President is authorized to fill vacancies.

The Executive Board recommends that officers of round tables also be frozen in their positions for one year.

The divisions and sections have authority to make their own decisions.

The election of officers in the A. L. A. will proceed as usual, the new officers to take office on July 1.



DETROIT LIBRARY

An interesting and timely innovation has been introduced at the Detroit, Michigan, Public Library, and at some of its branches. In the Technology Department, of which Mr. Ernest Peterson is head, a number of slidefilm (filmstrip) kits have been provided, together with small projectors for the use of readers and students.

These film kits enable the student to benefit by visualization of his or her book studies in such subjects as pre-flight pilot training, welding, basic electricity, aircraft mechanics, shop work, etc. The use of the film kits has been encouraged by the Government in the nationwide High School Victory Corps Program of pre-induction education in various skills needed in military aviation and war production.

The student merely makes out a slip for the films he wants, then projects the pictures on the reading table for which purpose small screens are provided. The plan has proved to be very popular, not only among high school students but also among older people preparing themselves for war production work. Mr. Peterson is enthusiastic about the possibilities of the plan, and states that more kits will be added as they are available. Miss Ethel Kellow, of the Mark Twain branch, states that the films have greatly increased the demand for books dealing with technological subjects.

Helen Maestri, Librarian of the Francis T. Nicholls High School, New Orleans, and a member of the A. L. A. School Libraries Section Committee of Reading for Background Series, announces the completion of the Southern list which is No. 15 of the Series. It is to be published by the A. L. A. this spring with the title—"Know the South; Books with Southern Background for High Schools."

From Fort Benning, Georgia, comes news of the promotion of 1st Lieutenant T. N. McMullan, formerly a librarian at Louisiana State University, to the rank of captain. Captain McMullan is an intelligence officer of the 300th Infantry Regiment at Fort Benning.

News of Corporal James C. McDougald, formerly a librarian at Louisiana State University, tells of his successful campaign to establish a library at Harding Field, Baton Rouge. Starting out a little over a year ago with \$25.00 and the blessing of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, Corporal McDougald now has a carefully selected 3,000-book library which is one of the finest sources of relaxation and recreation for the soldiers at Harding Field. The books were contributed by the East Baton Rouge Parish Library and friends of Corporal McDougald.

The Arthur Gropps with their daughter, Anne, are now comfortably settled in Montevideo, Uruguay, where Mr. Gropp is directing the establishment of a library under a Department of State grant. Mr. Gropp is on leave of absence as librarian of the Middle American Research Institute at Tulane University. Miss Ruth Maygene Dunbar, a graduate of Stanford University and the School of Library Science of Columbia University, has been appointed librarian of the Institute during Mr. Gropp's absence.

Ralph McComb, Assistant Librarian of the Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, Tulane University, returned to the library for a brief visit after completing his resident work toward a doctorate at the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago and then went immediately into the army. He expects to enter Officers' Candidate School in a short time. His present address is PFC Ralph McComb, 38198430, Hq. Det. 58th Medical Bn., Camp Claiborne, Louisiana.

A Building Program After The War

(Continued from Page 5)

Libraries are passing through a phase that challenges their right to share in public funds in a time of war. You can well ask ourselves—how is the challenge being met?

LOUISIANA IN PRINT

Recent references on Louisiana or by Louisiana authors, including books of importance locally printed, selected and annotated by Marguerite D. Renshaw, Reference Librarian, Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, New Orleans.

Copeland, Fayette—Kendall of the Picayune. Norman, Okla., University of Oklahoma Press, 1943.

Cummings, Harold & Midlo, Charles—Palm and Plantar Dermatoglyphics in Primates. 198p. Phila., Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, 1942. (American Anatomical Memoirs No. 20) (New Orleans physicians)

Leighton, Clare—Southern Harvest. 157p. N. Y., Macmillan Co., 1942. (One of the chapters entitled "Louisiana Pilgrimage")

Louisiana. Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans. Forty-sixth Annual Report. New Orleans, 1942.

Louisiana. Dept. of Education. Division of Higher Education—First Annual Financial Report. 163p. Baton Rouge, 1942.

Louisiana. Dept. of Finance. Division of the Budget—Executive Budget for the Biennium July 1, 1942 to June 30, 1944, submitted by Sam H. Jones, Governor, to the Louisiana Legislature. 494 p. Baton Rouge, 1942.

Louisiana. Dept. of Finance. Division of the Budget—Report on the current financial condition at June 30, 1942 and Operations of the State for the Fiscal Year 1941-1942. 87p. Baton Rouge, 1942.

Louisiana State University. General Extension Division—Aspects of a World at War. Radio Forums of the Louisiana State University. Edited by Robert Bechtold Heilman. 200p. University, L. S. U., 1943.

Louisiana State University. Graduate School of Public Welfare Administration—Social

Welfare Resource Book of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. (Mimeographed) 137p. Baton Rouge, 1942.

Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart—1892-1942, The Fiftieth Anniversary of the Mission. Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart founded by Blessed Francis Xavier Cabrini.

Pilcher, J. Mitchell—Wings of the Spirit. 19p. Montgomery, c1942.

Rice, John Andrew—I Came Out of the Eighteenth Century. 341p. N. Y., Harper, 1942.

Sublette, C. M. and Kroll, Harry H.—Perilous Journey. 418p. Indianapolis, Bobbs-Merrill Co., c1943.

Sailers, Earl A.—Income Tax Under Federal and Louisiana Laws. (Louisiana State University. College of Commerce. Bureau of Business Research. Louisiana Business Bulletin, v. 4, No. 1.) University, L. S. U., 1942.

Trust, Estelle—Louisiana Night. 15p. Shreveport, The author, 166 Albany St., 1942. (Poetry)



NEW MAGAZINES

Louisiana Conservationist, published monthly . . . by the Louisiana Department of Conservation. V. 1, No. 1, Dec., 1942.

New Orleans Port Record, published monthly by the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans. v. 1, No. 1, Sept. 1942.

Charles F. Heartman

*The Book Farm,
Hattiesburg, Mississippi*

AMERICANA PRINTED AND IN
MANUSCRIPT